

TRAINER NEWS FROM THE OCWTP

Bridgeline on Sexual Abuse

Mark your calendars! We will be providing updated sexual abuse information during the next bridgeline call for trainers. Please call in either **Monday, October 26 12:15-12:45** or **Thursday, October 29, 12:15-12:45**.

Trainer Conference

Hold the date – that works best for you! This year we are offering the Trainer Conference in three regions on three different dates. We are changing the format in response to the challenges some trainers have expressed in regards to travel and use of a vacation day. We hope to see you for the Trainer Conference at one of the locations below:

- Central Ohio Trainer Conference: Monday, March 8 (location: CORTC)
- Southern Ohio Trainer Conference: Saturday, May 22 (location: Cincinnati)
- Northern Ohio Trainer Conference: Tuesday, June 15 (location: Cleveland)

The same workshop, *Evidence Based Practice in the Training Room* (Beth Ann Rodriguez and Stacey Saunders), will be offered at all three locations along with time for structured networking. As always, registration will be on-line through the OCWTP website and we will continue to recognize the Linda Pope and Rising Star award winners. A flyer with more information will be available soon.

E-Track Implementation Update

We are currently in stage one of implementation. TrainTrack has been retired and we are using paper evaluation surveys.

One change to note: Concerns were raised that compromising the anonymity of the evaluation surveys by including an identifiable user ID compromises the validity of the data collected. Our priority is to collect good evaluation data – we want you to have confidence that the data is not biased. Therefore, we have **removed the User ID field from the evaluation surveys**. As previously stated, you will not receive evaluation summaries during this interim period, unless an individual RTC chooses to do so. However, once the data is back-entered, you will be able to review aggregate evaluation data for your workshops.

Stage two will be the introduction of RTCs and subcontract agencies to E-Track. They will be using E-Track administratively and begin back-entering data from fall workshops. This will likely begin towards the end of 2009.

Stage three will begin your use of E-Track as a trainer. We will be providing more detailed information and training as we move closer to this stage.

Stage four will bring child welfare staff (trainees) on board, and stage five will bring on caregivers (trainees). When staff and caregivers begin logging into E-Track as end-users, they will complete evaluation surveys on-line and receive their certificates electronically. Paper certificates will always be provided to trainees who do not have training records in E-Track or who do not have Internet access. (A recent OCWTP survey shows over 90% of caregivers have internet access so we anticipate this number to be small). In addition,

there will always be paper sign-in sheets at workshops, as we will always require signatures from workshop participants and trainer initials that each participant was present for the entire workshop.

Common Ground

The October 2009 e-edition of [Common Ground](#) is now posted on the OCWTP website. In this issue:

- Ensuring Foster Care Youth are Ready to Launch
- Integrating Distance Learning Into the OCWTP
- OCWTP Announcements
- New Evaluation Forms
- Alternative Plans for Distributing Handouts
- Regional News from the Regional Training Centers
- When the Class is Smaller than Anticipated – Tips for Trainers

Kudos and Announcements

November is National Adoption Month. Our own Gregg Oberlander, a caregiver representative on the OCWTP Steering Committee, is celebrating by making his son a permanent family member. Congratulations, Gregg!

Judy Qualls recently received high praise from a trainee in Washington County. “Unreal” and “amazing” were two of the adjectives he used. He was also very impressed that she never looked at the notes while training. He felt the evaluation was inadequate as there was not a rating higher than excellent. Way to go Judy!

Resources

If you are interested in distance learning, check out [Comprehensive Design: Integrating Distance Learning Into the OCWTP](#), a report recently completed by IHS staff.

California Child Welfare Co-Investment Partnership has released [Permanency: A Statewide Approach to Sustainability](#). Attachment #2 is of particular interest to trainers.

The Family Violence Prevention Fund’s toolkit [CONNECT: SUPPORTING CHILDREN EXPOSED TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE](#) helps trainers of adoptive parents and caregivers with all levels of experience in caring for children who have been exposed to domestic violence.

America’s Promise Alliance has a [Parent Engagement Toolkit](#) to increase a child’s academic success. The resources section is especially helpful.

The [Fostering Connections](#) Resource Center is *the* place to get updated information on the implementation of the Foster Connections federal legislation that passed last October.

The [Brain from Top to Bottom](#) is a unique interactive website that contains an unbelievable amount of information about the brain and behavior.